

David R. Fowler,  
MB, ChB, M. Med Path (Forens)  
1408 Phoenix Rd  
Phoenix  
MD 21131  
(410 472 0688)

James Ruckle Jr  
Assistant County Attorney  
Historic Courthouse  
400 Washington Ave.  
Towson  
MD 21204

September 20, 2013

RE Robin A. Burkart.

Dear Mr. Ruckle

I am a board certified forensic pathologist, Chief Medical Examiner for the state of Maryland, and have been actively practicing pathology since 1986.

Thank you for forwarding this case to me for review.

I have reviewed the following records.

Deposition of Robin A. Burkart  
Maryland Ambulance information sheet  
Franklin Square Hospital records  
Daniel L. Picard, MD.  
Advanced radiology reports  
Manor Care records  
Medlantic healthcare group records  
Kaiser Permanente records  
University of Maryland Orthopedic Department records  
Physiotherapy Associates records  
UMMC  
University Physicians  
Hanger clinic records  
American Radiology  
Police Report

**Synopsis of events.**

Police reportedly responded to the home of Robin Burkart after several 911 calls were received from this residence. On arrival the police reportedly knocked on the door and reportedly allowed into the house. According to miss Burkart's statement there were three offices who entered the home. Reportedly to offices accompanied Mr. Burkart's husband into the basement while the third officer remained with her on the landing.

The police were reportedly investigating a 911 call that indicated someone was hanging in the basement. At this time according to her deposition Ms. Burkart told offices to leave the house. To offices and responded to the basement to investigate the statement and officer Dickel remained on the landing. According to a statement Ms. Burkart was being abusive verbally and was instructed by officer Dickel to keep quiet. Ms. Burkart statement then indicates that she then walked into the kitchen and while doing so something struck in the back of the head causing her to fall to the floor. At this time this Burkart states "then the officer grabs me by my leg, pulls me out of the kitchen. He pushes my leg up, like for why I don't know, pushes my leg up, begins to twist and twist and twist and twists, and then I knew it was Ofc. Dickel, because I read his badge, okay?"

Ms. Burkhardt describes 3 distinct pops while the leg was being twisted.

**Medical Findings.**

The medical records indicate a left tibial plateau fracture, left fibula head fracture and damage to the left popliteal artery and vein. There is no record or ligament or cartilage injury to the knee.

**Opinion**

All opinions expressed are within a reasonable degree of medical certainty.

Tibial plateau fractures are typically of two types. Low energy fractures are seen in the elderly and usually of the depressed type. High energy fractures of this weight bearing surface are seen in sports injuries, falls and motor vehicle accidents.

Twisting forces on the knee typically cause soft tissue injury such as ligamentous or cartilaginous injuries. No such injuries were documented in the clinical records.

The twisting and pulling and the popping sound at that time as described by Ms. Burkhardt are not consistent with the fractures seen in this case.

I reserve the right to amend any facts or opinion if the information supplied changes.

Sincerely,



David R. Fowler MB. ChB. M.Med. Path. Forens